

Amendments to the Drawings:

A new drawing sheet, attached herewith as an appendix, has been added to comply with Examiner's objection. In the new drawing sheet, a Fig. 9 is shown. Applicant believes Fig. 9 doesn't add any new matter.

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Remarks:

Claims 44-68 remain in the application. The claims have not been amended by the Applicant.

In-person interview of July 10, 2006

An in-person interview was conducted between Corbett Coburn, Keith Moore and David Olynick at the USPTO on July 10, 2006. In the interview, support to overcome the 112 rejection was discussed. In addition, possible amendments to overcome the 103 rejection in view of Roffman were discussed. No agreements were reached.

Telephone conference of July 12, 2006

A teleconference between Corbett Coburn and David Olynick was conducted July 12, 2006. In the teleconference, claim amendments to be entered via Examiner's amendment to place the case in condition for allowance were discussed. Applicant agreed to the proposed Examiner's amendments to place the case in condition for allowance.

In the Drawings

Applicant has submitted a new drawing sheet with a new drawing FIG. 9 added. Applicant believes the new drawing sheet doesn't add new matter. Applicant believes the new drawing overcomes the Examiner's objections under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The new drawing sheet is attached

In the Specification

Two paragraphs have been added. The first paragraph is added to the Brief Description of the Drawings. The second paragraph is added to the Description of the Preferred Embodiments and describes newly added Fig. 9. Applicant believes the two added paragraphs don't add new matter.

Rejections under 35 USC 112, first paragraph

Applicant believes support for the limitation "including the first and second random components" rejected by the Examiner is found with respect to at least paragraphs 37, 39, 41, 44, 75 and 77 of US pub no. 20040072619. For instance, paragraph 37 recites, "Thus, with the random number generator, an independent game outcome can be selected from the

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pay table by the master gaming controller for each game play initiated on gaming machine 200. Further, paragraph 39 recites, "the game outcome presentations for each balloon might be randomly selected from a number of game outcome presentations stored on the gaming machine." In addition, paragraph 41 recites, "the probability of each game outcome presentation remains independent even when the game outcome presentations appear to interact." Finally, paragraph 77 recites, "when a player initiates a first game on a first gaming machine, the game outcome presentation is simultaneously displayed on one or more gaming machines different from the gaming machines different from the gaming machine on which the first game was initiated. Thus, for groups of gaming machines connected in this manner, all the game outcome presentations initiated by multiple players player games on different gaming machines may be viewed by each player on their gaming machine." Applicant believes at least in light of the support described above, the 112, first paragraph rejection is believed overcome thereby.

Rejections under 35 USC 103

The Examiner rejected claims 44-47, 51-55, 57-63 and 66-68 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roffman, et al. (US patent No. 6,375, 568) in view of Telnaes (US patent no. 4, 448,419).

The Examiner rejected claim 48-50, 56 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roffman, et al. in view of Pierce et al (US patent No. 6, 047, 963) and in further view of Telnaes (US patent no. 4, 448,419).

Applicant believes the rejections are overcome in view of the claim amendments to be entered by Examiner.

If the examiner believes that a telephone conference would aid the prosecution of this case in any way, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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